

## Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 19, 1998

Ms. Judith A. Hunter
Paralegal
City of Georgetown
P.O. Box 409
Georgetown, Texas 78627-0409

OR98-1509

Dear Ms. Hunter:

You have asked whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 115915.

The City of Georgetown (the "city") received a request for a report and pictures from a police file. You indicate that the city has released the front page offense and arrest report information. You assert, however, that the remaining report information and the pictures are protected from disclosure pursuant to section 552.108 of the Government Code. Section 552.108(a)(1) provides an exception from disclosure for information that is held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor and that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime, when release of such information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime. You state that charges are pending in this case and that release at this time would unduly interfere with prosecution and law enforcement efforts. Because prosecution is pending, we agree that you have shown the applicability of section 552.108(a)(1) to the records at issue, which may be withheld from disclosure.\(^1\) Open Records Decision No. 216 (1978) at 3 (release of information during pending criminal case would interfere with prosecution of crime and law enforcement interests).

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>We also note that the city has discretion to release all or part of the remaining information that is not otherwise confidential by law. Gov't Code § 552.007.

under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Ruth H. Soucy

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

RHS/rho

Ref: ID# 115915

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. John Muran

808 Rockmoor, #513

Georgetown, Texas 78628

(w/o enclosures)